

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5704

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

UNCLAS CAIRO 7797

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJ: SADAT PRESS CONFERENCE

1. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS FROM PRESIDENT SADAT'S AUG 6 PRESS
CONFERENCE IN ALEXANDRIA WITH MEXICAN JOURNALISTS ACCOMPANYING
PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA AS CARRIED IN CAIRO PRESS AUG 7.

A. ME SITUATION. EGYPT IS ALERT TO ANY EVENTUALITY SINCE
ME SITUATION IS NOW "EXPLOSIVE." GOE CONTINUE DEMAND ISRAELI
WITHDRAWAL FROM WEST BANK AND GAZA AS WELL AS ESTABLISHMENT
OF A PALESTINIAN STATE. ASKED IF ARAB-ISRAELI COEXISTENCE IS
POSSIBLE, SADAT GAVE HIS USUAL ANSWER, I.E., PROBLEM IS
COMPLICATED AND ROOTED IN PAST. COEXISTENCE CANNOT COME OVERNIGHT.
"AS I DECLARED IN 1971...AND 1973 AND AS I KEEP ANNOUNCING,
WE ARE PREPARED FOR PEACE AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH ISRAEL WITHDRAWS
TOTALLY AND BELLIGERENCY...IS TERMINATED UNQTE. FURTHER STEPS WILL
BE TASK OF COMING GENERATIONS.

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B. USSR. IN VEILED REFERENCE TO USSR, SADAT SAID MANY BENEFIT FROM

CURRENT STATE OF QTE RESTIVENESS UNQTE. THOSE WHO DO NOT WANT PEACE IN WORLD AND THOSE WHO WOULD ESTABLISH THEMSELVES IN ME ARE KNOWN TO ALL.

C. REJECTION FRONT. EVEN BROTHERS CANNOT AGREE ON EVERYTHING, BUT WE NOW USE OUR MINDS NOT OUR EMOTIONS. RE PALESTINE, PRES SAID STRATEGY IS THE SAME, THE TACTICS DIFFER.

D. USG ROLE. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ABOUT USG PEACE EFFORTS, SADAT LAUDED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S EFFORTS WHICH QTE REPRESENT FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE IN US APPROACH UNQTE. SECRETARY HAS RESTORED OUR TRUST IN US AND HAS NEVER RENEGED ON HIS WORD. QTE I TRUST HIM UNQTE.

2. COMMENT: SADAT'S WORDS OF PRAISE FOR THE SECRETARY WERE PARTICULARLY WARM. EGYPTIANS TO WHOM WE HAVE SPOKEN ARE IMPRESSED BY PRESIDENT'S UNEQUIVOCAL STATEMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN USG AT THIS CRITICAL JUNCTURE AND POINT OUT THAT HIS REMARKS REPRESENT CONSIDERABLE ACT OF COURAGE.

MAESTRONE

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